

V. REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 USC 102 (b) as being anticipated by Japanese Patent Number JP 408056737 A to Kawase. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As indicated in the Office Action, claim 3 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 3 is amended in this manner and, as a result, is now in condition for allowance.

Claims 2 and 4, as amended, depend from claim 3 and include all of the features of claim 3. As a result, claims 2 and 4 are allowable over the applied art.

Claim 1 is canceled and, as a result, the rejection as applied thereto is now moot.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 USC 102 (b) as being anticipated by Busch et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,154,193). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As indicated in the Office Action, claim 3 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 3 is amended in this manner and, as a result, is now in condition for allowance.

Claim 2, as amended, depends from claim 3 and include all of the features of claim 3. As a result, claim 2 is allowable over the applied art.

Claim 1 is canceled and, as a result, the rejection as applied thereto is now moot.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 USC 102 (b) as being anticipated by Bianchi (U.S. Patent No. 5,165,335). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As indicated in the Office Action, claim 3 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 3 is amended in this

manner and, as a result, is now in condition for allowance.

Claims 2 and 4, as amended, depend from claim 3 and include all of the features of claim 3. As a result, claims 2 and 4 are allowable over the applied art.

Claim 1 is canceled and, as a result, the rejection as applied thereto is now moot.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

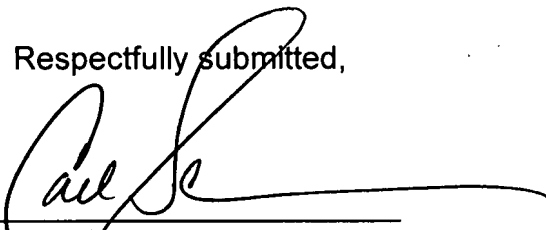
In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 26, 2007

By:



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Enclosure(s): Amendment Transmittal

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